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Attorney Docket No. 00575/LH

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): R. PIETERSE et al

Based on Serial No. :

PCT/IB99/00702

Filed Herewith

For METHOD AND SYSTEM

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Myllara Barbara Villani

In the event that this Paper is late filed, and the necessary petition for extension of time is not filed concurrently herewith, please consider this as a Petition for the requisite extension of time, and to the extent not tendered by check attached hereto, authorization to charge the extension fee, or any other fee required in connection with this Paper to Account No. 06-1378.

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Asst. Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

SIR:

Please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Claim 5, line 1, change "any of the preceding claims" to -- any one of claims 1-4--.

Claim 6, line 1, change "any of the claims 1-5" to

-- any one of claims 1-4--.

Claim 8, line 1, change "any of the preceding claims" to -- any one of claims 1-4--.

Claim 9, line 1, change "any of the preceding claims" to -- any one of claims 1-4--;

line 2, change "the" (first occurrence) to

--a--.

Respectfully submitted,

Leonard Holtz Reg. No. 22,974

Frishauf, Holtz, Goodman, Langer & Chick, P.C. 767 Third Avenue - 25th Floor New York, New York 10017-2023 Tel. No. (212) 319-4900 Fax No. (212) 319-5101 LH:bv